

**2010 Olympics Transportation Subcommittee
January 19, 2007, Meeting Summary
Washington State Department of Transportation
Bellingham Maintenance Facility**

Introductions

Paula Hammond, Subcommittee Chair, opened the meeting by welcoming the subcommittee members, thanking them for attending, and having them introduce themselves.



**2010 Task Force Background—
Paula Hammond, WSDOT**

To support British Columbia in holding successful 2010 Olympic Games Governor Gregoire convened a 2010 Task Force co-chaired by Congressman Rick Larsen and former Congressman Sid Morrison. This Task Force has a scope of activities which will be realized with the assistance of the following four subcommittees: Business Development, chaired by Herman Uscategui; Tourism, chaired by Steve Pomranz; Security, chaired by General Timothy Lowenberg; and Transportation, chaired by Paula Hammond.

Paula then asked the group “What should this subcommittee worry about? What should we think about and coordinate better? These are the things I want this group to think about during the discussions and presentations today.”

Capital Investments—Todd Harrison, WSDOT

There are capital investments already underway that will be complete by 2010, as well as future needs WSDOT has identified to accommodate the anticipated increase in travelers associated with the 2010 games.

Capital investments underway and scheduled to be complete by 2010 include:

- I-5 – Everett Freeway Expansion—\$262.6 Million
- Nooksack to Cherry Street—\$18 Million
- SR 543 - I-5 to Canadian Border - Additional Lanes for Freight—\$46.8 Million
- SR 539, Horton Road to Ten Mile Road—\$61.3 Million
- SR 539 - Ten Mile Road to Lynden Road Widening—\$101.6 Million
- Peace Arch Port of Entry Redevelopment GSA and Homeland Security—\$40 Million
- I-5 Blaine Interchange Improvements—\$24.6 Million

Amtrak Cascades Service—Paula Hammond, WSDOT

Currently, Amtrak provides only one round-trip from Seattle to Vancouver B.C. However, WSDOT is working with Burlington Northern on freeing up a sidetrack that may allow for an additional Amtrak round-trip.

Air Service—John Sibold, WSDOT

It appears commercial air service impacts won't be an issue at SeaTac or Bellingham airports. However general aviation restrictions may be a problem for corporate, medical, UPS, etc. flights in Whatcom and San Juan counties. John will contact FAA with WSDOT's concerns and will report back at the next meeting.

Traveler Safety and Security—Captain Bill Larson, WSP

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) will be responsible for all security at the Games. However, the Security Subcommittee is working in cooperation with the RCMP. The Security Subcommittee has six work groups up and running and some of these work groups have been broken down into smaller work groups each working on specific security issues. Many of these issues will also ready Washington State for the World Police and Fire Games scheduled to be held in Vancouver B.C. in July 31—August 9, 2009.

The Security Subcommittee is also working to inform the public on the needed documentation for entering into the United States as well as that there is a [NEXUS](#) office at Boeing field as well as at Blaine and Vancouver, B.C.

Traffic Management—Ted Trepanier, WSDOT

An overview was given on the operations and maintenance enhancements planned to accommodate the anticipated increase in travelers associated with the 2010 games. They included:

***Operations Improvements with anticipated costs of \$950k***

- Improved Incident Response
- Additional staffing and training for Traffic Management Center Staff
- Traffic Analysis
- Traffic Signal Maintenance and Signal Timing Improvements
- Public Information, including specialized signing and coordinated Web based information
- Security Planning

Maintenance Enhancements with anticipated costs of \$ 3.71 Million

- Winter Operations and Maintenance - Snow Fighting
- Rest Area Operation, minor improvements and ramped up cleaning
- Litter and Graffiti Control

Costs estimates were based on planned expenditures primarily in the 09-11 biennium with funding sources yet to be identified. WSDOT will also pursue federal grant opportunities where possible.

Trade and Tourism—Larry Williams, CTED

There is a wide-range of opportunities at the second tier level (subcontractors), but more opportunities will happen closer to the Games. Based on data from the Salt Lake City Games, Washington State may get more people visiting after the Games than before or during the Games.

Developing alternative modes of travel is needed as well as package deals. Developing seamless travel is a necessity. Getting travel information to people early with as many modes of choice as possible is crucial.

There may be an opportunity to bring trains down from Alaska that are idle during the winter months and private ferries and other tour companies may also be interested in providing transportation alternatives for economic considerations.

Vancouver B.C.—Brian Mills, Trans Link, and Joyce Chang, BC Ministry of Transportation

The Vancouver Organizing Committee (VANOC) was established on September 30, 2003 to support and promote the development of sport in Canada by planning, organizing, financing, and staging the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. It has set-up eight subcommittees to assist in accomplishing this effort.



VANOC has begun its transportation plan and it should be complete and ready for distribution in October.

Meeting Wrap-up—Paula Hammond, WSDOT

Paula asked if the right people were at the table, if the meeting was useful, and if the subcommittee should convene again in the future. The attendees agreed it was useful to meet and the membership was appropriate but it would be beneficial to have representatives from VANOC attend the next meeting.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- What is the future goals of the subcommittee
- Reports by VANOC and other B.C. organizations
- Report from SeaTac
- Reports from other 2010 Olympic Subcommittees
- What is the best way of communicating so there isn't duplication of efforts
- Where/when can foreign languages be used